## I. Defining expectations

# II. Listing some

- A. For your children
  - 1.
  - ..
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
  - 5.
- B. For your family
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
- C. For you
  - 1.
  - 2.

# III. Evaluating them

A. Problem Number One: James 4:13-17

B. Problem Number Two: Deuteronomy 13:4

IV. Responses from:

A. the cynic:

### B. the idealist:

C. the realist:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4. Philippians 2:12

### V. The Practical Application – Raising Children Realistically

- A. Defining the "real' world
  - 1. The viewpoint from the Scriptures

2. "It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who in the midst of the crowd keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude." R.W. Emerson

#### B. Reality concerning your children

- 1.
  2.
  3.
  4.
  5.
  C. Reality for your family
  1.
  2.
  - 3.

D. Reality for you

1. You will not survive as a mom if you create an environment in which your children are completely dependent upon you for everything.

- a. b.
- c.
- 2 Your mental health and theirs are intrinsically related
- 3. The balancing act
  - a. Philippians 2:5-7

#### b. "If it is women's function to give, she must be replenished too." Anne Morrow Lindbergh

c. The Atlantic Monthly article

Four valuable resources every mom should have:

- 1.
- 2.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

VI. Conclusion: Embrace the truth of the Scriptures; embrace reality. Do the hard work required to implement this advice, but do it in God's strength.